

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1396

6
7 H.P. 1052

House of Representatives, March 30, 1983

8 Referred to the Committee on Local and County Government. Sent up
9 for concurrence and ordered printed. Ordered sent forthwith.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative McHenry of Madawaska.

Cosponsor: Representative Bost of Orono.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Change the Positions of County
18 Treasurer and Register of Deeds from
19 Elected to Appointed.
20

21 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
22 follows:

23 Sec. 1. 30 MRSA §601, as amended by PL 1975, c.
24 771, §315, is repealed.

25 Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §601-A is enacted to read:

26 §601-A. Appointment of county treasurer

27 The county commissioners of each county shall
28 appoint a treasurer to serve at their pleasure and
29 with such compensation as set by the county budget
30 committee. The treasurer shall be qualified in mat-
31 ters of business administration and finance. The
32 treasurer shall have all the authority granted to
33 treasurers under this subchapter and be subject to

1 all requirements of this subchapter. The treasurer
2 shall devote his time to the duties of his office,
3 under a schedule which may be established by the com-
4 missioners, so that those duties are fully performed.

5 Sec. 3. 30 MRSA §602, as amended by PL 1975, c.
6 771, §316, is repealed.

7 Sec. 4. 30 MRSA §603 is repealed.

8 Sec. 5. 30 MRSA §604, as repealed and replaced
9 by PL 1977, c. 67, §6, is repealed.

10 Sec. 6. 30 MRSA §605, as enacted by PL 1977, c.
11 657, §16, is repealed.

12 Sec. 7. 30 MRSA §§606 and 607, as enacted by PL
13 1981, c. 419, are repealed.

14 Sec. 8. 33 MRSA §601, as amended by PL 1981, c.
15 698, §166, is repealed.

16 Sec. 9. 33 MRSA §601-A is enacted to read:

17 §601-A. Appointment of register of deeds

18 The county commissioners of each county shall
19 appoint a register of deeds to serve at their pleas-
20 ure and with such compensation as set by the county
21 budget committee.

22 Sec. 10. 33 MRSA §602, as amended by PL 1975, c.
23 771, §375, is repealed.

24 Sec. 11. 33 MRSA §604, as amended by PL 1981, c.
25 40, §6, is further amended to read:

26 §604. Salaries

27 Registers of deeds in the several counties shall
28 receive annual salaries as set forth in Title 30,
29 section 2-

30 The salaries of the registers of deeds shall be
31 in full compensation for the performance of all offi-
32 cial duties and no other fees or compensation shall
33 may be allowed them. All registers, ~~except in the~~

1 western district of Oxford County, shall devote their
2 entire time to the duties of the office, unless the
3 county commissioners and the county budget committee
4 determine otherwise. They shall account monthly
5 under oath to the county treasurers for all fees
6 received by them or payable to them by virtue of the
7 office, specifying the items, and shall pay the whole
8 amount of the same to the treasurers of their respec-
9 tive counties monthly by the 15th day of the follow-
10 ing month. They may make abstracts and copies from
11 the records and furnish the same to persons calling
12 for them and may charge a reasonable fee for such
13 service, but shall not give an opinion upon the title
14 to real estate.

15 Registers shall photocopy each warranty or quit-
16 claim deed received and send the copy to the assess-
17 sors of the appropriate municipality within 30 days
18 of recordation. They may charge a reasonable fee for
19 such service.

20 STATEMENT OF FACT

21 This bill establishes appointed county treasurers
22 in each county. The county commissioners are granted
23 the appointive authority. The salary of the county
24 treasurer is to be a responsibility of the county
25 budget committee. Appointed county treasurers must
26 be qualified in business administration and finance.
27 Statutes referring to the election of county treas-
28 urers or to the appointment of county treasurers sub-
29 ject to referendum are repealed.

30 This bill establishes appointed registers of
31 deeds in each county. The county commissioners are
32 granted the appointive authority. The salary of the
33 register of deeds is to be a responsibility of the
34 county budget committee.

35 This bill repeals provisions in the statutes for
36 elected registers of deeds and grants to the county
37 commissioners and the budget committee the authority
38 to determine their hours.

39 This bill coincides with legislation submitted to
40 establish county budget committees.

